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Amendments to the Claims:

Amendments to the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A purified polynucleotide which encodes ~~STR50~~ a polypeptide, the sequence of which is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 1 comprising consecutive nucleotides having a sequence as set forth from position 644 through position 3109 of SEQ ID NO:1 ~~and~~ or a homologs or complements thereof.
5. (Currently Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 1 comprising consecutive nucleotides having a sequence as set forth from position 644 through position 3019 of SEQ ID NO:3 ~~and~~ or a homologs or complements thereof.
6. (Currently Amended) A purified polynucleotide of claim 1 which encodes a the polypeptide having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
7. (Currently Amended) A purified polynucleotide of claim 1 which encodes a the polypeptide having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

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8. (Original) A vector comprising a polynucleotide according to claim 1.
9. (Original) A cell comprising a vector according to claim 8.
10. (Original) An antisense polynucleotide complementary to the polynucleotide of claim 1.
11. (Currently Amended) A purified polynucleotide ~~having~~ consisting of between 15 and 922 consecutive nucleotides, the sequence of which is present between ~~from~~ position 1 ~~to~~ and position 922 of SEQ ID NO:1.
12. (Currently Amended) A purified polynucleotide ~~having~~ consisting of between 15 and 766 consecutive nucleotides, the sequence of which is present between ~~from~~ position 1 ~~to~~ and position 766 of SEQ ID NO:3.
13. (Original) Purified STR50.
14. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 13 comprising consecutive amino acids the sequence of which extends from position 1 through position 821 of SEQ ID No:2.
15. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 13 comprising consecutive amino acids the sequence of which extends from position 1 through position 791 of SEQ ID No:4.
16. (Original) A purified polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 11.
17. (Original) A purified polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 12.

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18. (Original) A purified polypeptide according to claim 13, having the biological activity of modulating neurotoxic stress.
19. (Original) A purified polypeptide having at least 70% homology to, and retaining the biological activity of the polypeptide according to claim 18.
20. (Original) An antibody that binds to an epitope on the polypeptide of claim 13.
21. (Original) An antibody that binds to an epitope on the polypeptide of claim 14.
22. (Original) An antibody that binds to an epitope on the polypeptide of claim 15.
23. (Original) An antibody that binds to an epitope on the polypeptide of claim 19.